

Night 15

Highlights from Surah Al-Anbiya (Prophets) discusses the conflict between the Prophet^{SAW} and the chiefs of Makkah, and answers those objections and doubts that the Mushrekeen were expressing concerning his Prophethood, and the concept of Tauhid and the Hereafter. The chiefs of Makkah have been rebuked for their scheming against the Prophet^{SAW} and warned of the evil consequences of their wicked actions. At the end of the Surah, they have been told that the person whom they considered to be a "distress and affliction" had in reality come to them as a blessing. The objections of the disbelievers that a human being could not be a Messenger of Allah, have been refuted. Examples are quoted that all prophets from Allah^{SWT} were human beings, and all of them went through difficulties, faced stiff opposition but were eventually successful with the help of Allah^{SWT}. All of them had one religion, Al-Islam -- the religion the Holy Prophet^{SAW} is preaching, and it is the only Right Path.

Highlights from Surah Al-Hajj appears the first month of Zul-Hijjah in Madinah brought to the immigrants nostalgic memories of their homes in Makkah, the Sacred City and of the Hajj congregation. They grieved that the Quraish had barred them from visiting the Sacred Mosque. They were praying Divine permission to wage war against the tyrants who had expelled them from their homes and deprived them from the House of Allah. Accordingly, this Surah specifically mentions the purpose for which Masjid al Haram was built. It is stated that Hajj had been enjoined for the worship of One Allah. Therefore, permission for waging war was granted against those tyrants who were stopping them from fulfilling Islamic obligations. According to commentators, Verse. 39 was the first verse that granted the Muslims permission to wage war:

"Permission to fight is granted against whom war is waged and because they are oppressed, certainly Allah^{SWT} has power to grant them victory."

Until this revelation Muslims were not allowed to fight even for self-defense. Soon after this permission actual preparations for war were started.

Main Theme

This Surah addresses three groups of people: the mushriks, the wavering Muslims, and the true believers:

Mushriks: They were warned sternly: "You have obstinately and daringly persisted in your ideas of ignorance and trusted in your deities instead of Allah, although they possess no power at all, and you have repudiated Allah's Messenger. Now you will meet the same end as the rejectors before you. You have only harmed yourselves by rejecting the Prophet^{SAW} and the believers; now your false deities shall not be able to save you from the wrath of God".

The wavering Muslims: They are those who had embraced Islam but were not prepared to endure any hardship in its way. They are told: "What is this faith of yours? On the one hand, you are ready to believe in Allah and become His servants provided you are given peace and prosperity but, on the other, if you meet with afflictions and hardships in His Way, you ignore Allah^{SWT}. You should know that this wavering attitude couldn't avert those misfortunes and losses which Allah has ordained for you."

The True Believers: They were told that the mushriks of Makkah had no right to prevent Muslims or anyone from performing Hajj or Umrah. This was a violation of Quraish's own tradition. It was pointed out that Prophet Abraham, by the Command of Allah, had built the Holy

Mosque; and he had invited all the people to perform Hajj there. Also, he built it for the worship of One Allah, and not for rituals of Shirk. In an exclusive way, the believers were ordered to counter the tyranny of the Quraish and fight with them. They were instructed to deal with people justly when Allah^{SWT} gives them victory. Moreover, the believers have been formally called "Muslims", because , "You are the real heirs to Abraham and you have been chosen to become witnesses of the Truth before mankind, and the Prophet^{SAW} a witness over you. Therefore you should establish Salat and pay the Zakat dues in order to become the best models of righteous life and perform Jihad for propagating the Word of Allah."